What I claim as my invention is:

1. A method of identifying a bridge uplink port in a network, comprising the steps of:

(a) sending an ICMP ping to all known bridges within said network and thereby causing forwarding data base tables of said bridges to store MAC addresses and interface indices of adjacent bridges;

(b) sending an SNMP query to a selected bridge to retrieve stored contents of a forwarding data base table of said selected bridge; and

(c) for any interface index retrieved from said selected bridge, identifying a port associated with said interface index as an uplink port of an adjacent bridge.

2. A method of further identifying a bridge uplink port in a network in accordance with claim 1, further comprising the steps of:

(d) downloading the contents of all of said forwarding data base tables of said known bridges;

(e) counting a number of MAC addresses associated with each port of said bridges; and

(f) identifying a port as an uplink port if said number of MAC addresses counted exceeds a predetermined number.